

June 2014 Newsletter from Executive Councilor Kenney

(Representing all the towns and cities in the counties of Coos and Grafton, the unincorporated place of Hale's Location, the towns of Albany, Alton, Andover, Bartlett, Brookfield, Center Harbor, Chatham, Conway, Cornish, Croydon, Danbury, Eaton, Effingham, Freedom, Gilford, Grantham, Hart's Location, Hill, Jackson, Madison, Meredith, Middleton, Milton, Moultonborough, New Durham, New Hampton, New London, Newport, Ossipee, Plainfield, Sanbornton, Sandwich, Springfield, Sunapee, Tamworth, Tilton, Tuftonboro, Wakefield, Wilmot, and Wolfeboro, and the cities of Claremont and Laconia)

My third month on the job as your new Executive Councilor was just as busy as the first and second. There were two Executive Council meetings: one on Wednesday, June 2nd and one on June 18th, both held at the State House in Concord. The Council voted on over 300 contracts. There were 26 confirmations and 16 nominations for boards and commissions. Additionally, several civil commission (notary public and justice of the peace) appointments were made.

Several citizens at the beginning of the Council meetings were recognized for their achievements and volunteer work within the State of New Hampshire. The Governor and Council always have some young musicians who perform before the meeting and it is a great way to see the young musical talent in our state. If anyone in my District would like to perform, please let me know.

This month also included an informational hearing with the Commissioner of Revenue for the citizens of Orange, several commencement speeches, visits to economic development sites and award ceremonies. I have had numerous constituent requests (particularly on road infrastructure) and letters of grant support. I have tried to honor all requests to attend events and occasions that require my attendance. Every so often I do have a conflict in my schedule so the early bird catches the worm.

June 3 – Attended the occasion of its 75th Annual Meeting of Members, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) to look back at its pioneering past and a look forward to a challenging future with major changes in store for the regional energy industry. More than 175 members and guests attended the Annual Meeting, which was held at Prospect Hall on the campus of Plymouth State University, **Plymouth, NH**.

June 5 – Conducted a tour with Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) Executive Director, Taylor Carswell and Rep. Leon Rideout to see the MacKillop building in **Lancaster** to develop some thoughts on economic development funding or possible housing options. I also, met with Lancaster VFW Post 3041 leadership on possible federal sources for their new building proposal.

June 7 – Participated in the North Country Home Health and Hospice Agency walk-a-thon in **Littleton**. It was a run/walk event honoring the late Executive Councilor Ray Burton. All monies were raised to support Hospice. Love those yellow T-shirts! Also, attended the Grafton County Farm Day in **Haverhill** that honored the memory of Ray Burton. My first hay ride, in many years!

June 11 – Attended the annual RSVP Recognition Luncheon at Camp Calumet in **Freedom**. This program recognized the many volunteers of Carroll County for their services to the senior community. A wonderful and positive event. I also attended the Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce Leadership Academy ceremony at Hobbs Restaurant in **West Ossipee**. This program recognized several upcoming young professionals in the Mount Washington area.

June 12 – Proud to be the commencement speaker at the Newport High School graduation ceremony which was held at the Old Town Hall in **Newport**. Many thanks to School Board Chair Liz Henning and Superintendent Irwin Sussman for the opportunity. The students were great and gracious. Go Tigers!

June 13 – In the spirit of high school commencements, I attended my own 35th Spaulding High School Reunion held at Moose Mountain Lodge in **Brookfield**. “Go Red Raiders and class of ’79!”

June 14 – Proud to be the commencement speaker at White Mountain Regional High School in **Whitefield**. The commencement was held inside the High School Gymnasium and the room was packed beyond compare. Thank you to Principal Michael Berry for the invite. My speech was about inspiration and public service. Go Spartans!

June 16 – Attended a Court House hearing at the **Haverhill** Grafton County Court in support of the American Legion Post 22 of Lebanon who are involved in a legal case with the State of New Hampshire over charity winnings. The case has been extended to August when a status conference will be held with all parties involved. More to follow ...

Attended lunch at the Littleton Senior Center in **Littleton** by the river. Food was excellent as always. Conducted a meeting with Chris Thayer, Director of North Country Progress & Outreach for the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) and Vice Director, Paul Cunha in **Carroll** to discuss their programs, hopes for the future and interaction with the State of New Hampshire. AMC runs some wonderful recreation and conservation programs with an emphasis on education and outdoor activities.

June 20 – Attended my son’s eighth grade graduation with my family at Paul School in **Wakefield**. Way to go Panthers!

June 24 – At the request of the Town of Orange officials, I set up a meeting with Department of Revenue Commissioner, John Beardmore and his staff to explain to the **Orange** townspeople their tax rates based on the passage of a new school bond with the Mascoma School District. There are five communities who send their children to Mascoma High School and Orange is one of the smaller communities-a part of the area Mascoma School agreement. It was an informative evening full of great questions and answers. It was a good outreach evening for the Commissioner and his staff.

June 25 – Attended the ceremony with local and state officials to recognize Police Chief Bob Cormier and Corporal Norman "Sunny" Ashburn at the **Tilton** Town Hall with *Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve* (ESGR), an agency of the U.S. Department of Defence. This ensures employment for members of the National Guard and Armed Forces Reserve following their deployment. Outstanding support by Chief Cormier and the Town of Tilton while Corporal Ashburn was deployed overseas defending our country.

June 27 – Attended the Home Ownership Project in **Berlin** through VT/NH Rural Development. Executive Director, Ted Brady was there along with many housing volunteers and local and state officials. The home owners on a fixed income greatly benefitted from this housing program and a great job done by all who participated in this worthwhile endeavor.

June 28 – Attended the Make-A-Wish Foundation Fundraiser and Barbeque in **Warren**. The Make-A-Wish Foundation is one of the most worthwhile programs I know. Yes, I even sang some Karaoke at the Bandstand to get into the mood. The food was excellent and the hospitality was extraordinary. Great job by the owner of Calamity Jane’s Restaurant for sponsoring the event.

Of note: The Governor and Council meetings will now be taken on the road for the summer. I will be hosting the Governor and Council meeting in District 1 in **Bridgewater** on August 5th at the Newfound Lake Inn. The breakfast meeting will start at 8:00 am and the regular meeting will start at 10:00 am.

There were many calls during the month and emails, please note that my email address is: joseph.kenney@nh.gov and my cell phone number is 603-581-8780. If you have someone or an organization that wants to be put on my email distribution list, please let me know.

Let me know what I can do to help solve your problem.

Sincerely,

Joe

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